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CPW Report No. 57 -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Jan. 12 - 18, 1953)

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1. (1b) Sino-Soviet Friendship:

Shanghai said (Jan. 17) that "due to the fraternal assistance of our Soviet brothers," local buses burning charcoal were being reconverted to gasoline. Peking announced (Jan. 12) that Tikhonov told Soviet writers of his impressions of China during SSF Month. Peking said (Jan. 14) that Prague's RUDE PRAVO carried a commentary on China's Five Year Plan, and added in numeral code (Jan. 15) that seven Rumanian theaters were showing the Chinese film, "White-Haired Girl."

2. (1c) Soviet Leadership:

Peking stated in numeral code (Jan. 13) that Honan farmers had used Soviet methods to improve their irrigation system. Peking (Jan. 13) broadcast talks by Chiangnan dock workers who "overcame their old ideas and learned progressive Soviet techniques."

According to Chungking (Jan. 12) labor models who visited the USSR impressed Yunnan factory workers with stories of the happy life in the Soviet and increased their political consciousness. Kunming said (Jan. 14) that local railway workers improved their work by Soviet welding methods.

3. (2a) War Burdens:

Peking reported (Jan. 17) that the Wuhan Resist-America, Aid-Korea Association had strengthened its leadership to promote the RAAK drive. Shanghai stated (Jan. 14) that local RAAK railway workers had demanded increased RAAK propaganda, and monthly meetings to discuss the Korean war.

Tsinan reported (Jan. 16) that Shantung peasants were promoting preferential treatment under RAAK leadership. Chengte (Jan. 14), Wuhsien and Sian (Jan. 15), and Wuhan and Chungking (Jan. 13) told of local and provincial orders to step up preferential treatment.

Peking (Jan. 14) broadcast a talk on the enthusiasm of women apprentices in the Liaoyang Machine Tool Factory. Chungking said (Jan. 12) that meetings had been called to discuss equal treatment for women on mutual aid teams, including the right to speak in meetings, to encourage farm production by women. Tsinan asserted (Jan. 16) that mutual aid teams would increase production through new methods and "increased use of women on equal terms with men."

4. (2a) War Propaganda:

Peking (Jan. 12) carried a Korean front dispatch on Communist propaganda devices, including "battle-line mailboxes" containing safe-conduct passes, peace literature, "how to surrender" directions, food, and wine, which American soldiers hid from their officers. Though officers warned that the food was poisoned, the men ate it anyway, "as they were starved."

From their "warm underground shelters" the Chinese broadcast songs of sympathy for the cold and suffering Koreans. When the Koreans complained of a cigarette shortage the Chinese tossed them cigarettes.

Enemy artillery units created noise and confusion to drown out Chinese propaganda, but when warnings to stop were ignored, the Chinese "quickly silenced" the guns. More enemy soldiers were surrendering daily, and U.N. front-line soldiers were rotated every 2 or 3 days to prevent their surrendering.

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Peking in numeral code (Jan. 12) quoted the LOUISVILLE TIMES as saying American soldiers were "unwilling to fight for capitalists," and added (Jan. 14) that American officers and newsmen confusedly tried to cover leaks concerning Army desertions. Peking said (Jan. 15) that Americans were using "so-called scientists" to hide the low morale of American soldiers.

Peking asserted (Jan. 17) that heavy casualties in Korea had forced America to expand the draft and extend the service tour, and despite stepped-up production the U.S. economic crisis daily was growing worse. Peking added (Jan. 18) that Britain had lost interest in the Korean war.

5. (2c) Trade Difficulties:

Peking in numeral code (Jan. 16) quoted the TIENTSIN TA KUNG PAO in warning business-men and tax collectors to heed the lessons of the three anti's and five anti's drives, promote the RAAK drive, and recognize that Government policy was to "help private trade develop under the leadership of the working class." Chungking announced (Jan. 12) that under the Government policy of trade expansion, "and with the cooperation of State enterprises and tax bureaus," private merchants in Hsingjen Hsien, Kweichow, increased their business in December.

Shanghai stated (Jan. 17) that "after exposure of the serious hog-buying scandal" precipitated by the East China Native Products Company, the public had written numerous letters of complaint. Peking in numeral code (Jan. 13) quoted the JEN MIN JIH PAO as saying the Ministry of Trade had failed to serve the customers and give them what they wanted.

6. (3a) Russification Moves:

Dairen stated (Jan. 14) that local students and teachers had been urged to increase their political studies, as "there has been a lack of interest shown lately in political conditions." Chinchow announced (Jan. 14) that after indoctrination of the first group of 45,110 cadres, the Liason Party Committee was now busy with a second group. Chungking said (Jan. 13) that the Kweichow Party Committee had started a check of cadres "in order to streamline Party organizations and learn the ideology and behavior of cadres."

Wuhan reported (Jan. 13) that all local Government financial and economic offices had been ordered to organize inspectorates and "create liaison with the supervisory office."

Peking announced in numeral code (Jan. 15) that "in order to increase reading matter for minorities," the Publications Administration had created an office to translate and publish in minority languages. Shanghai announced (Jan. 17) that with completion of thought reform among newsmen, the local press would be coordinated. The CHIEH FANG JIH PAO would report Party news; LO TUNG PAO would act as the official organ for the Shanghai Federation of Labor; the HSIN WEN JIH PAO would handle economic news; WEN HUI PAO school news; and HSIN MIN PAO cultural activities, sports, and the sanitation movement.

7. (3a) Basic Construction:

Peking asserted in numeral code (Jan. 12) that the Northeast Petroleum Administra-tion had found 13 billion yuan worth of equipment useful in national construction, and had "cut its normal purchases in half." Peking added (Jan. 17) that the Central Government had set up designing offices and architectural companies for basic construction. The Ministry of Machine Industry had 1,500 designers working on blueprints for machines, electrical equipment, and autos.

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Peking announced (Jan. 16) that in Central and South China 4,000 technicians were registered for assignments. Mukden said (Jan. 13) that the Fushun Second Engineering Section had trained 416 mechanics. Dairen announced (Jan. 14) that the local labor bureau was finding construction jobs for 14,000 illiterate non-technical workers. Wuhan reported (Jan. 18) that 4,000 technicians had been registered for construction. Canton announced (Jan. 14) that Kwangtung institutions of higher learning had been reorganized to meet basic construction needs.

Hofei reported (Jan. 16) that the Anhwei Postal Communications Administration, after severe criticism for failing to support the basic construction program, had found an ample supply of teachers and facilities. Peking said in numeral code (Jan. 17) that in Chekiang, despite verbal agreement by the offices concerned, transfers to basic construction never were made. The Shanghai CHIEH FANG JIH PAO accused East China offices of failing to transfer 1,400 technical cadres.

8. (3a) People's Assemblies:

Peking (Jan. 14), discussing convocation of people's assemblies, quoted Li Chi-shen as saying, "holding a People's Congress will strengthen the people's democracy, coordinate the RAAK drive, and promote national basic construction." Chang Po-chun: "Practical considerations necessitate convening national and local people's assemblies." Huang Yen-pei: the action "will create proletarian rule and consolidate Government relations with the masses."

9. (3b) Resistance to Change:

Peking in numeral code (Jan. 16) quoted an official as saying many cadres did not realize that implementation of the marriage law was a "major reform activity," and had treated it as "a temporary movement or simply as something to be left to the women."

According to Hangchow (Jan. 13) the Chekiang procurator's office, discussing irregularities in State enterprises, demanded that correspondents report on "cases of counterrevolutionary activities and corruption." Chungking said (Jan. 12) that a Sikang committee had been formed to devise ways to "change the feudalistic ideas of peasants."

10. (3e) Agricultural Remolding:

Peking announced (Jan. 16) that the Northeast Party Committee had decided to collectivize agriculture during the next 5 years, and ordered cadres to "overcome their lackadaisical attitude." Peking said in numeral code (Jan. 13) that Northeast rural cadres had been ordered to "counteract the rising power" of the one percent classed as "rich farmers," and to correct cadre thinking that allowed the rich farmers to gain power.

11. (4) Asian Affairs:

Peking asserted in numeral code (Jan. 14) that Yoshida was disregarding the Constitution and remilitarizing Japan with American aid. Heavy weapons units were interspersed around American bases, especially on Hokkaido.

Peking in numeral code (Jan. 13) quoted the MSA in the Philippines as saying the "puppet Quirino government" had lost popular support. Peking stated (Jan. 18) that the Government, with no reason given, recently arrested 300 Chinese.

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Peking (Jan. 18) charged the Thai Government with persecuting Chinese, and quoted TASS as saying the Bangkok regime had ordered offices to avoid the use of "peace" in all announcements.

12. (4) Border Minorities:

Peking reported in numeral code (Jan. 12) that the Party conference of the People's Liberation Army in Tibet met to review achievements of the PLA and the "role of the troops in the long-term construction of Tibet."

Chungking announced (Jan. 14) that the first MIN CHIANG JIH PAO, organ of the Party Committee and the Mouhsien Tibetan Autonomous Area in Szechwan, had appeared as a 2-page Han edition. The Tibetan edition would come out in a few months. Chungking said (Jan. 12) that an I nationality regiment in the PLA had been formed at Chaochueh, Sikang.

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